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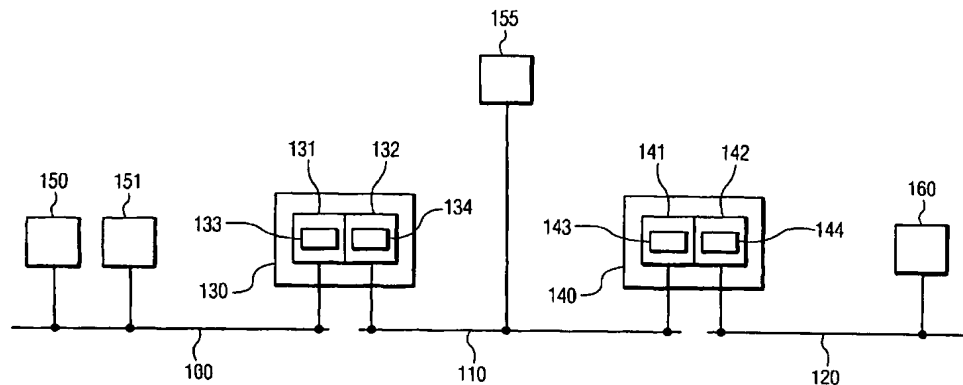
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- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): KONINKLIJKE PHILIPS ELECTRONICS N.V. [NL/NL]; Groenewoudseweg 1, NL-5621 BA Eindhoven (NL).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): SATO, Takashi [US/US]; P.O. Box 3001, Briarcliff Manor, NY 10510-8001 (US). TOGUCHI, Kazunobu [US/US]; P.O. Box 3001, Briarcliff Manor, NY 10510-8001 (US).
- (74) Common Representative: KONINKLIJKE PHILIPS ELECTRONICS N.V.; Intellectual Property & Standards, c/o PIOTROWSKI, Daniel, J., P.O. Box 3001, Briarcliff Manor, NY 10510-8001 (US).
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR EFFICIENT TIMEOUT MESSAGE MANAGEMENT



(57) Abstract: A method and system for TIMEOUT message management in a serial bus bridged network includes: checking by an portal upon receiving a timeout request message a flag to determine whether a set of stored remote timeout values is valid. If the stored set is valid, the portal synthesizes a timeout response message to the source bus using the set of stored remote timeout values. If the stored set is not valid, the portal will take a variety of actions. In one embodiment, the portal will temporarily store the received set of remote timeout values; forward a new set of calculated remote timeout values in the forwarded timeout request message; intercept a timeout response message that corresponds to the forwarded timeout request message; store a revised set of remote timeout values based on a set of remote timeout response values included in intercepted timeout response message for later use with the valid flag updated; and forward a revised set of remote timeout response values as part of a timeout response message towards the source bus. In a second embodiment, the portal will forward the timeout request message unchanged towards the destination bus, and an exit portal associated with the portal will upon receipt of a timeout response message update the set of remote timeout values and store them for later use based on a set of remote timeout response values included in the intercepted timeout response message, along with forwarding the updated set of remote timeout response values in a timeout response message towards the source bus.

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